

LAKE BERRYESSA USER'S GUIDE

2009-2010



*Tips to help keep our lake clean
for drinking water, recreation and nature*

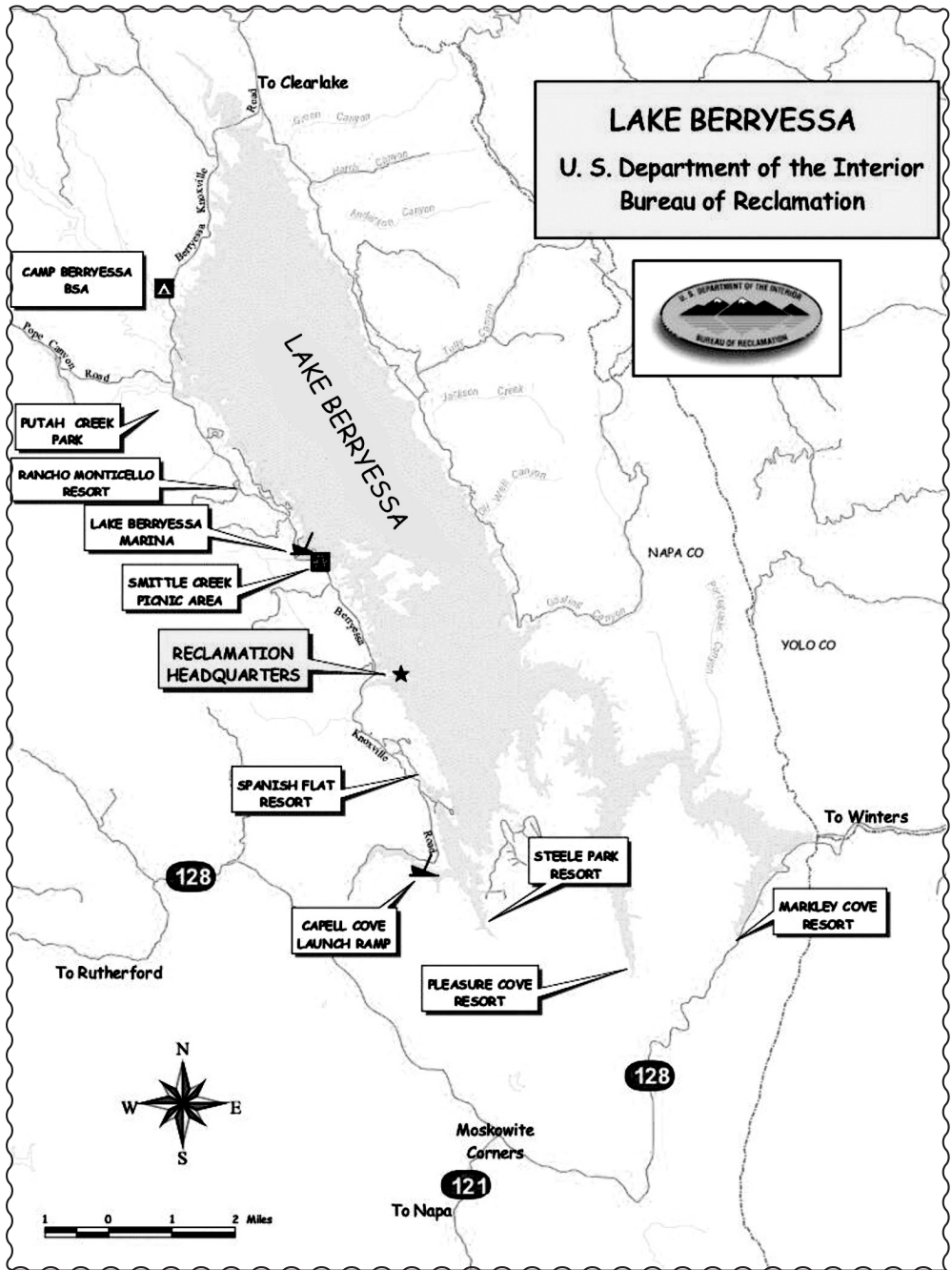
Produced by the
Lake Berryessa Watershed Partnership

Funded by the
Solano County Water Agency and
the Napa Flood and Water Conservation District

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CLEAN WATER & WHY IT MATTERS

Bilgee is a giant bilge pad who is also known as “The Protector of Clean Waterways.” He is the Watershed Partnership’s mascot, and often visits Lake Berryessa during the summer to remind everyone that more than 500,000 people drink the water that comes from Lake Berryessa; and that the region’s fish, wildlife & plants depend on clean water from the lake to survive.



We drink it!

Untreated Lake Berryessa water generally meets primary and secondary public health drinking water standards.* This means the water is clean and safe, which is a very good thing for the people who rely on Lake Berryessa for drinking and household

The water from Lake Berryessa flows through a network of canals, streams

& creeks into the Suisun Marsh. The Suisun Marsh covers 116,000 acres, and is the largest contiguous brackish water marsh remaining on the west coast of North America. It is home to many rare and endangered species of plants and animals.



* (F. Morris, Lake Berryessa/Solano Project Watershed Sanitary Survey 2001 Update).

HOW BOATERS CAN HELP.

Regular boating activities present a moderate risk to water quality due contamination from bilge discharge of unburned fuel components, fuel spills, fueling activities and boating accidents.*

BOATERS CAN PROTECT LAKE BERRYESSA BY:

1 Using a bilge pad to soak up unburned fuel

2 Changing their bilge pads as needed and recycling used bilge pads properly (free bilge pad recycling facilities are located at all seven resorts).



3 Using extreme care during all fueling activities to prevent spills.

4 Boating safely to prevent accidents.

5 Bringing all trash & recyclables back to shore with them and disposing of them properly

6 Securing all loose items on their boats to prevent accidental littering.



*(F. Morris, Lake Berryessa/Solano Project Watershed Sanitary Survey 2001 Update).

FREE BILGE ABSORBENTS & DISPOSAL

Bilge pads are pillowy little pads composed of polyethylene fibers designed to absorb fuel and oil while “repelling” water. A pad in the bilge chamber of a boat will soak up any petroleum products from the water that fills the bilge, which is often contaminated with oil, diesel, and other hazardous substances. If you don’t use a pad, these contaminants get pumped overboard when you run your bilge pump. A bilge pad captures all the contaminants and lets you pump out just the water. It’s an easy way to help keep the lake clean!



Pick up your free pad at:

Markley Cove

Pleasure Cove

Spanish Flat

Capell Cove

Bilge pads are easy to install, but you can always get some help from Bilgee on Saturday or Sunday afternoons during the summer at one of the locations listed above.



PLEASE DISPOSE OF BILGE PADS RESPONSIBLY

Please don't put your used bilge pads in the trash! Throwing dirty bilge pads in the garbage only moves the pollution they've absorbed from the lake to the land.

A dirty bilge pad is toxic to the environment, and if the pad goes to the landfill, oil and other petroleum-based fluids can leach into the soil and pollute drinking water sources and wildlife habitat.

The best way to dispose of used bilge pads is to put them into one of the specially marked red cans located at Markley Cove, Pleasure Cove, Steal Park Resort, or Capell Cove. Thank you!



HOW DAY-USE VISITORS & CAMPERS CAN HELP:

- Put ALL trash in a garbage can.
- Secure your picnic or campsite so trash and other items can't blow into the lake.
- Use the bathrooms...not the lake. Every time. (There are even floating bathrooms ON the lake to make this rule easy to follow.)



HOW SWIMMERS CAN HELP:

Full-body contact in any drinking water source can pose serious threats. Swimmers can be a source of bacterial, viral, chemical & other contaminants.

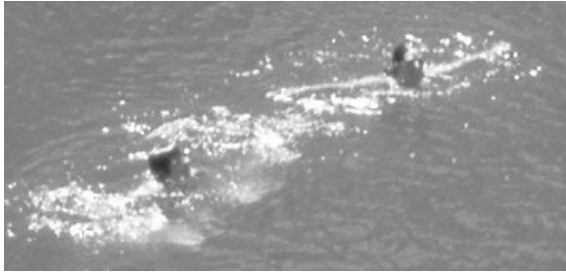
Swimmers can be at risk, too: they can contract gastrointestinal illnesses, skin rashes, and ear and eye infections from contact with water contaminated by fecal coliforms.

Swimmers can help keep Lake Berryessa safe and clean by:

- Using the bathrooms and
NEVER the lake.

(this is in really big type because it's the most important)

- Using environmentally friendly sunscreens & soaps.
- Staying out of the water if they have any open sores or wounds or any communicable diseases.



REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE, REMEMBER!



REDUCE

According to the EPA, between 1960 and 2007 the amount of waste each person creates has almost doubled from 2.7 to 4.6 pounds per day. The most effective way to stop this trend is by preventing waste in the first place.

TIP: Your kids can find great recycling info at <http://www.kidsrecyclingzone.com/>

REUSE



Cups
Canvas Bags (say no to plastic & paper bags)
Water bottles
Paper
Tupperware

FACT: The mass of plastic debris in part of the North Pacific Ocean is six times more than that of plankton *(which, forms the base of the aquatic food chain). Source: Alguita

RECYCLE

If you are using a day use area without recycling facilities, bring a bag to the lake and bring your recyclable materials home with you for your curbside collection program.

Please separate all recyclables from waste and dispose of them properly at the lake or at home. **NEVER** throw recyclables or other waste into the lake.

FACT: It's possible for an aluminum can to get recycled, turned into a new can, and be back on the shelf in 60 days.

Source: Ideal Bite



You can recycle bottles and cans at Capell Cove, the Visitors Center, Oak Shores or any of the three resorts.

REMEMBER

The benefits: recycling saves natural resources, reduces toxicity of waste, saves energy, prevents pollution and reduces costs

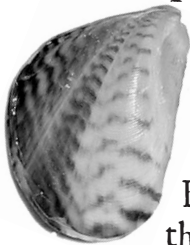
LOOK OUT!

INVASIVE SPECIES

MAY BE ON THE MOVE

Non-native species have drastically altered natural ecosystems throughout California. This is especially true in regards to plant communities. Throughout the State and around Lake Berryessa, non-native annual grasses have come to dominate grassland, savannah and woodland ecosystems, in some cases completely replacing native herbaceous species cover.

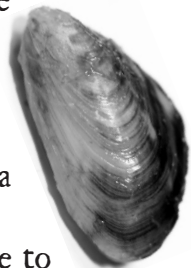
Invasive species threaten the diversity and abundance of native species. Their impacts on natural ecosystems can also have negative affects on human health and the economy. Impacts may include clogging navigable waterways and water delivery systems and weakening flood control structures.



The Bureau of Reclamation and other agencies are concerned about quagga and zebra mussels entering the lake.

These two similar mollusks are native to the Caspian Sea drainage area in Eurasia.

Both are voracious feeders and prolific breeders that most likely arrived as stowaways in ocean-going ships.



Help make sure they don't infest and harm Lake Berryessa and other waterways. Check and clean your boat before you put into Lake Berryessa, and after each take out. To find out more about how you can help prevent the spread of invasive species that threaten the lake, talk to a ranger on the lake or at the visitor's center.



CONSERVE WATER. IT'S AN URGENT MATTER

For the last 3 years California has experienced below average rainfall. For the Sacramento Valley, water year 2007 was classified as a dry year and 2008 as critically dry. For the San Joaquin Valley both 2007 and 2008 were critically dry years.

2009 looks to be another dry year for both the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys. Due to the low rainfall and reservoir storage, the state and federal water projects that supply a majority of the State are expected to have allocations at or near record lows for 2009. Many local water agencies have imposed water use restrictions, and economic projections show serious impacts to farms, farm works, and agriculture related business.

The drought will also impact natural resources and recreational opportunities, and create added fire danger.

Please be aware of the need to conserve water wherever you are this summer.

Think about all the people, wildlife and plant life that depend on this limited resource for their existence.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!

Please help keep the lake clean!

Coastal Clean-up takes place every year on the third Saturday in September. For locations where clean-up events will take place, please visit the California Coastal Commission website or contact Rodger at Napa Dive and Sport (707) 257-2822. Thank you for your support— we can't do it without you.



SERVICES AROUND THE LAKE

Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 6123
Napa, CA 94581
www.lakeberryessachamber.com/

RESORTS

Markley Cove Resort
7521 Highway 128
Napa CA 94558
707-966-2134

Pleasure Cove Marina LLC
6100 Hwy. 128
Napa CA 94558
707-966-9600
<http://goberryessa.com/>

Steele Park Resort
1605 Steele Canyon Road
Napa, CA 94558
(707) 966-2213
www.steelepark.com

FOOD & DRINK

Berryessa Corners Store, Restaurant, & Bar
6005 Monticello Rd.
Napa CA 94558
707-255-5502

Berryessa Estates Marketplace
2386 Stagecoach Canyon Rd.
Pope Valley CA 94567
707-965-0101

Cucina Italiana
A Green Certified Business
4310 Knoxville Rd.
Napa CA 94558
707-966-2433
www.lakeberryessanews.com/cucinaitaliana.html

Pope Valley Market
5850 Pope Valley Rd.
Pope Valley, CA. 94567
707-965-9922

Spanish Flat Country Store & Deli
4310 Berryessa Knoxville Rd.
Napa CA 94558
707-966-1602

Turtle Rock Bar & Restaurant
2000 Capell Valley Rd.
Napa CA 94558
707-966-2246

MISCELLANEOUS

Pope Valley Repair and Towing, Inc.
5875 Pope Valley Rd.
Pope Valley CA 94567
707-965-2302

The Lake Berryessa News
1515 Headlands Dr.
Napa CA 94558
PKilkus@gmail.com
www.LakeBerryessaNews.com



LOCAL RESOURCES

For more information on Best Management Practices or disposal sites for bilge pads, motor oil, batteries, or other hazardous waste, contact the following agencies:

For Solano County:

Solano Resource Conservation District
1170 N Lincoln St. Suite 110
Dixon Ca 95620
707-678-1655 x 115
www.solanorcd.org

For Napa County:

Napa County Dept. of Environmental Management
1195 Third St. #101
Napa, CA 94559
707-253-4471



WATERSHED PARTNERS

Solano County

City of Vacaville

City of Fairfield

City of Vallejo

City of Benicia

City of Rio Vista

City of Dixon

City of Suisun City

United States Bureau of Reclamation

Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce

Solano Resource Conservation District

Napa Environmental Management

Solano Irrigation District

Solano County Water Agency

Anheuser-Busch



go jump
in the
(clean) lake

Lake Berryessa Watershed Partnership